# Using CONNECT:Direct at the NIH Computer Center

CIT
Center for Information Technology

# 1   INTRODUCTION

## 1.1   OVERVIEW

The purpose of CONNECT:Direct is to facilitate host-to-host file transfer. The function it provides is similar to that provided by the SENDFILE and RCVFILE programs, documented in the manual *Batch Processing and Utilities at the NIH Computer Center*. CONNECT:Direct is easier to use than those two programs and provides a means to monitor the progress of the file transfer.

There are two requirements for use of CONNECT:Direct. There must be a VTAM or TCP/IP connection between NIH and the other site, and the other site must also have the hub version of CONNECT:Direct.

The actions carried out by CONNECT:Direct are controlled by a CONNECT:Direct process, which is similar to a JCL procedure. Once the process is set up, the user needs to supply just the values for various parameters. The two parameters used most frequently are the source data set name and the target data set name.

This users guide is not intended to be a stand alone document, but assumes that the reader is thoroughly familiar with the concepts and facilities of CONNECT:Direct. Nonetheless, it contains information of interest for all potential CONNECT:Direct users.

The NIH Computer Center's CONNECT:Direct nodes are:

| | |
|---|---|
| nih.ndm | South system |
| ndm.fda.pcc | North system |
| ndm.std.nih | Titan |

## 1.2   HOW TO GET ASSISTANCE

CONNECT:Direct receives full (Level 1) support from the Center for Information Technology (CIT) which manages the NIH Computer Center. Questions should be directed to the CIT Technical Assistance and Support Center (TASC), either by phone at (301) 594-6248 or by submitting an online Service Request Ticket (SRT) at:

> http://datacenter.cit.nih.gov/srt

All problems and questions will be resolved by CIT staff.

For more information about the Center for Information Technology and the NIH Computer Center, go to:

> http://cit.nih.gov

## 2  REGISTERING FOR USE OF CONNECT:DIRECT

Anyone wishing to set up a new CONNECT:Direct application must be a registered CIT user. Contact TASC if you do not already have a CIT account/initials combination (CIT userid). Once you are a registered CIT user, you can then register for using CONNECT:Direct. Use of CONNECT:Direct requires coordination with another site as well as modifications to certain CONNECT:Direct configuration files.

To register to use CONNECT:Direct, submit an SRT that includes the following information:

- destination of the data to be transmitted
- nature of the data to be transmitted
- the amount and frequency of transmitted data

Each project must have a Data Transmission Administrator (DTA), who is responsible for setting up and maintaining the jobs and CONNECT:Direct processes needed to transmit the data. All correspondence with CIT regarding a registered CONNECT:Direct project should specify the name of the DTA.

# 3 DOCUMENTATION

This manual is available to all registered users of the NIH Computer Center. Other manuals needed by registered Data Transmission Administrators, are:

*CONNECT:Direct for MVS User's Guide*
This manual introduces the command system through which the CONNECT:Direct Processes are controlled. It describes the commands available and tells how to use them through the Batch Interface. The manual assumes knowledge of the IBM Multiple Virtual Service operating system and job control language.

*CONNECT:Direct Process Guide*
This manual provides information needed to write CONNECT:Direct Processes. A CONNECT:Direct Process is a unit of work. Processes are written in a language unique to the CONNECT:Direct product. The CONNECT:Direct Process language consists of statements and parameters that provide instructions for initiating such activities as copying files from one CONNECT:Direct node to another.

The two manuals listed above can be obtained from the vendor, Sterling Commerce (http://www.sterlingcommerce.com).

## 4   FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT THE NIH COMPUTER CENTER

Only the base CONNECT:Direct product is installed on the South system of the NIH Computer Center. South system access to it is available only through the batch interface, not the interactive user interface. North system (and eventually Titan) access to CONNECT:Direct is available through the batch interface and the interactive user interface. TCP/IP and SNA are the only network connectivity protocols supported for CONNECT:Direct at the NIH Computer Center.

## 5 JOB CONTROL LANGUAGE

Following is the JCL to be used for submitting a CONNECT:Direct job on the South system. The /*ROUTE XEQ VTAM1 statement is required so that the CONNECT:Direct job will run on the correct processor. In the following example, aaaa and iii refer to the user's own account number and registered initials:

```
        (job card)
(/*ROUTE XEQ and /*MESSAGE statements for any tape
 input data sets)
/*ROUTE XEQ VTAM1
//NDM EXEC PGM=DMBATCH,REGION=1024K,PARM=(YYSLYNN)
//STEPLIB DD DSN=ZZXZNCP.NDM.LINKLIB,DISP=SHR
//* DDNAMES BELOW MUST BE SPECIFIED EXACTLY AS SHOWN
//DMNETMAP DD DSN=ZZXZNCP.NDM.NETMAP,DISP=SHR
//* LIBRARY CONTAINING CONNECT:DIRECT PROCESSES
//DMPUBLIB DD DSN=AAAAIII.libname,DISP=SHR
//DMMSGFIL DD DSN=ZZXZNCP.NDM.MSG,DISP=SHR
//DMPRINT DD SYSOUT=A
//SYSPRINT DD SYSOUT=A
//SYSIN DD*
```

The North system JCL for a CONNECT:Direct job is as follows:

```
        (job card)
//DMBATCH  EXEC PGM=DMBATCH,PARM=(YYSLYNN)
//STEPLIB   DD DISP=SHR,DSN=PCC.NDM32.LINKLIB
//DMNETMAP  DD DISP=SHR,DSN=PCC.NDM32.NETMAP
//DMPUBLIB  DD DISP=SHR,DSN=PCCSYS.NDM.PROCESS.LIB
//DMMSGFIL  DD DISP=SHR,DSN=PCC.NDM32.MSG
//DMPRINT   DD  SYSOUT=*
//SYSUDUMP  DD  SYSOUT=*
//SYSIN     DD  *
```

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* CONNECT:Direct commands go here. This is a CONNECT:Direct comment

# 6   RESTRICTIONS

Because a data transmission job initiated at another site would have no way of specifying a job class or supplying a /*ROUTE XEQ or /*MESSAGE statement, it is not possible to initiate a data transmission from another site to a tape data set at NIH. It would be possible, though, to initiate a job at NIH, which transmits data from another site to here. In that situation, because the job initiated at NIH could specify an appropriate job class and /*ROUTE XEQ and /*MESSAGE statements, data from another site could be placed into a tape data set at NIH.

There are no restrictions for the North system.

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